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**GILDA Z. JACOBS**  
**MICHIGAN SENATE**  
**ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC FLOOR LEADER**  
**FOURTEENTH DISTRICT**

Committees  
Economic Development, Small  
Business and Regulatory Reform VC  
Families and Human Services VC  
Government Operations  
Health Policy

# The Jacobs Report

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Monday, April 28, 2003**

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## **STATE'S SPECIAL CAUSES PLATES HAVE RAISED \$4.8 M**

Last week, the Department of State released figures showing that Michigan specialty plates issued by the state have raised more than \$4.8 million for the schools and causes involved.

The state has sold 170,184 of the special vehicle license plates in just over two years. There are currently 22 different varieties, the most popular of which is the "Proud to be American" plate.

Earlier this month, Senator Jacobs introduced a bi-partisan piece of legislation (SB 356) to establish a specialty plate benefiting Michigan's zoos. "The zoo plate is a popular idea that we explored last session," said Jacobs. "Giving motorists the opportunity to contribute through the purchase of this specialty plate would be a win-win for the state and for the zoos." Currently, when a motorist buys a plate, it initially costs \$35, with \$10 going to the state and \$25 to the special cause. Renewals would contribute an addition \$10 toward Michigan zoos.

## **SENATOR JACOBS TO HOST HOMELAND SECURITY TOWN HALL MEETING**

Senator Jacobs and Oakland County Commissioner Helaine Zack have invited Michael Sturm, Administrator of the Oakland County Emergency Response & Preparedness Unit, to discuss Oakland County's emergency response and preparedness programs. Mr. Sturm will highlight the preparedness, training, equipment, and response plans in place to protect Oakland County residents in the event of natural, technological, national security, or nuclear emergencies or disasters. Senator Jacobs, Commissioner Zack, and Mr. Sturm will also discuss other local and statewide initiatives and will be available to answer questions.

### **Details:**

One County's Response to 9/11 - Oakland County Homeland Security Town Hall Meeting  
Thursday, May 1, 2003 at 7:00 PM

Pleasant Ridge Community Center  
4 Ridge Road, Pleasant Ridge (located West of Woodward Ave. and South of 10 Mile/I-696)

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**THIS WEEK: TWO JACOBS BILLS SCHEDULED FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**SB 50**, which would require health clubs to implement certain procedures to address medical emergencies, including having an automatic external defibrillator and at least one employee certified in CPR present on the premises during times of operation.

**Details:**

Senate Committee on Health Policy  
Senator Beverly S. Hammerstrom, Chairman  
Leta Schindler, Committee Clerk, 373-3543  
DATE: Wednesday, April 30, 2003  
TIME: 1:00 pm  
PLACE: Room 402-403, State Capitol

**SB 99**, which would authorize the state to establish an organ donor leave program.

**Details:**

Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor  
Senator Jason Allen, Chairman  
Clerk Phone Number, 373-2429  
DATE: Tuesday, April 29, 2003  
TIME: 3:00 pm  
PLACE: Room 100, Farnum Building

**SENATOR JACOBS FLOOR STATEMENT REGARDING THE LATE MARTHA GRIFFITHS**

I rise today to speak about former Lieutenant Governor Martha Griffiths. I think it's sort of timely that today is Take Your Child to Work Day because we have so many young men and women in our audience today who can see how somebody of Martha Griffiths' stature was able to not only break the glass ceiling, but be a trailblazer for so many of us who are here today. We have 11 female state Senators, and I think we owe a lot to the work that Martha Griffiths did in making all of us have a real place in history. I just want to give a little background, particularly for those who are in our Gallery today, so that they really understand her background. Martha Griffiths was the first Democratic woman elected to Congress from Michigan, the first woman to serve as a Recorder's Court judge in Detroit, one of the very first women elected to the Legislature, and the first woman elected as Lieutenant Governor. That's not to diminish our wonderful Lieutenant Governor who we have right now.

At each step, Martha Griffiths left her mark. Her years in Congress, however, was where she made her greatest mark. She fought for and succeeded in getting the federal civil rights law changed to include gender discrimination as a crime.

Yesterday, after hearing of Martha Griffiths' passing, Governor Granholm praised her courageous leadership and her service to our state saying that "Martha Griffiths blazed a trail that we in Michigan still follow to this day. Not only did she break the glass ceiling in Michigan's Capitol, but she modeled the way for all of us--men and women alike--to use the power of leadership to serve one another and improve our world for all of its citizens."

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While best known for her work on women's rights in Congress, Ms. Griffiths also focused on health issues, urban renewal causes, and laws to fight poverty--such as legislation to create food stamps. Her loss will be felt by many. She left her mark on our state and on our country, and we are thankful for all of her contributions.

State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Franklin, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, Southfield, and Southfield Township. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.

**Constituents of the 14<sup>th</sup> District may contact Senator Jacobs at [sengjacobs@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sengjacobs@senate.michigan.gov) or toll-free at 1-888-937-4453.**

This newsletter is produced in single-space form in order to save paper and transmission costs.

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